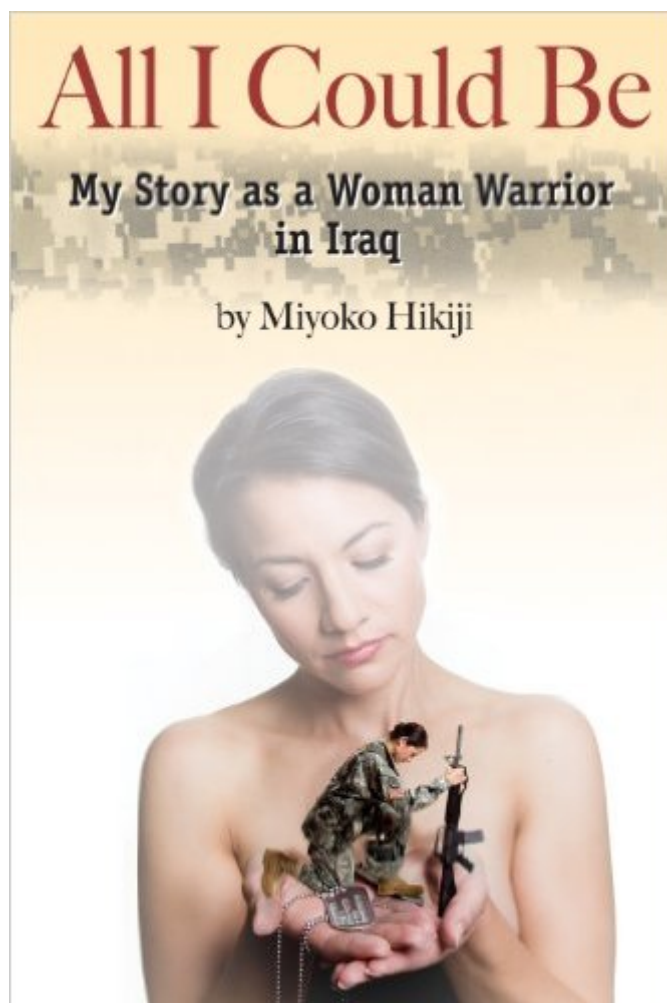


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# All I Could Be: My Story As A Woman Warrior In Iraq



## Synopsis

This inaugural account, during the onset of the Global War on Terrorism, by a female National Guard soldier provides evidence of the vitality of female fighters. It pays tribute to the two soldiers in her unit that lost their lives, and shows how love can be more vital in the desert than in water. This story exposes the comradeship, intimacy, cowardice and humor of soldiers living in physical and emotional grit. Through the candid telling of her encounters with battle buddies, the Iraqi people and enemy prisoners of war, Hikiji adds the timely, unexpected and fresh perspective about the Iraq war that readers are thirsting for.

## Book Information

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## Customer Reviews

Miyoko Hikiji's memoir of her experiences as a woman in a predominantly-male unit in Iraq provides an excellent snapshot of an interesting time in history. While battles still rage about whether women belong in combat, Hikiji's story shows that the real decisions have already been made. Driving trucks outside the wire, she, and fellow female soldiers, performed their duties as assigned. Hikiji's training as a journalist shines in her writing, as she knows how to include the right amount of military

detail without losing readers. She develops her characters realistically and her personal voice comes across well. I highly recommend this book, and Hikiji should be commended for sharing her personal story about this period in time.

I just want to say that this book kept me up at night reading it. I could NOT put it down. I have such respect for the author, I want to first thank her for all she did by serving her country and writing an amazing book. I suggest this book be read by all femaleservice members - women AND men alike. I look forward to her next book! Please don't. hesitate to buythis thoughtfully written book. I respect her service to her Country, and am grateful she wrote about herexperiences, so people can understand what a female soldier goes through. This is an important book,so do not hesitate and buy it NOW!!! I am so glad that I found this book on , since I now readalmost all books on my kindle / tablet. I think I finished it in 3 days! I don't. want to give away her storyBecause I really suggest you buy it. "Cat "

I have a lot of respect for anyone that writes a book. The time, fortitude, and perseverance that it takes to accomplish the task is deserving of merit, especially, when it's about personal experience.Miyoko is an excellent writer. Her vocabulary and style are impeccable. She was a good soldier and did her time. She has values and a unique perspective, given her Asian-American background. However, she is a woman in a man's world and struggles to gain the respect she feels deserving of, despite her value to the unit. Her contribution is somewhat compromised because of her love affair with a fellow soldier in her same unit. Normally, fraternization is frowned upon in any unit of the military, but Miyoko staunchly defends her intimate desires for Jon, as having no bearing on her duty.As a former Infantry Marine, a woman's place in the military is a highly contested issue. With gender equality and political correctness being a natural evolution in a free, democratic society, there is a lot of pressure to assimilate, and disregard the masogenistic ways of the old guard. She touched on the bias of gender, but not on a broad scope. This was her story, her experience.It was well written, well edited, and professional. However, I was waiting for a climax that never came. The substance of the book was below expectation. I was disappointed that Jon seemed more of a focal point than the overall mission. I get it, but there is a selfish human aspect associated with "love" on the battlefield.My experience was very different, as I have never worked with women in the military, and can see the ramifications of such behavior.Overall, good book. I commend your effort and thank you for your service.

Very well written account of what it's like to be a woman warrior. So many issues that civilians and their male counterparts never encounter. back when I served in the U.S. Navy, we didn't have one women in our group. That has changed in current times.

The story felt real. The lives were stressed all the time yet they did the job they needed to do. This story helps you understand the close woking together needed to survive and how personalities inflict more stress. Well worth reading.

As the daughter of a retired Marine of 30 years serving our great nation, I remember the sacrifices, time away and the soulful love my Dad still holds in his heart for our country. I respect our military and sacrifices in many ways. I am thrilled that a woman has written your experience down on paper. I am not finished reading all of the book but so far it has allowed me to imagine being in her shoes....great book!

This story is uniquely told from the perspective of a real person, a female soldier, who tasted the gritty air in Iraq, felt the relentless sun beaming down, and the worst of it, the fear of what terror lurked around every corner. I would like to thank the author and all those who have served in the armed forces sacrificing their comfort and safety to protect our country.

Excellent read.... so much that I read it twice. I have been a military history enthusiast for years and have grown tired of the books written about generals making this move, that weapon system in action, or battle lines drawn on a distant map... so have recently have turned towards more personal experiences. (WWII through current conflicts.) In the case of All I Could Be, this is a side of war too few have read about and even fewer have lived. (I am an OEF 2010-11 Army vet.) And adding a woman warrior's perspective is even more unique. Men and women alike should read and appreciate this well-written and fresh view on war and the day-to-day struggles for the individual soldier therein. Hooah!

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